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Experience of endoscopic ear surgery in Bangladesh

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Background & Aim: Endoscopic ear surgery is an emerging technique with advancement highlighting advantages over the traditional microscopic approach. In Bangladesh, we have started doing myringoplasty since 2005 with otoendoscope and stopped due to various problems. But again, from 2007, all types of middle ear surgeries with nasal endoscopes have been done with bright, wide and clear view. We did different types of transcanal tympanoplasty, ossiculoplasty, stapedotomies, also few cholesteatoma surgeries by endoscope. As rigid endoscopy allows, wide-field view of the surgical field improved resolution with high magnification and the ability to look around corners, enabling direct visualization of the hidden recesses including the retrotympanum, epitympanum, supratubal recess, peritympanum and hypotympanum, granulation tissue or cholesteatoma matrix can be removed easily.

Methods: A cross-sectional study was done during March, 2010 to June, 2014 in Otolaryngology & Head-Neck Surgery Department of Bangabandhu, Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) after having permission from ethical review board of the university.

Results: During the study period, 1200 different types of transcanal endoscopic tympanoplasties like underlay and interlay tympanoplasty using different graft materials; temporalis fascia, perichondrium, cartilage with graft taken up rate and hearing gain equivalent with tympanoplasty was done by microscope. 517 different types of ossiculoplasties and stapedotomies were done with similar hearing gain done by microscope. 117 cholesteatoma surgery: Atticotomy, atticostomy with reconstruction have been done without any major complication or recurrence. Learning curve of surgery among the residents is higher with endoscope.

Conclusions: Endoscopic ear surgery is a new technique which is gaining momentum in Bangladesh and there is enthusiasm for its incorporation into future practice. Further, investment in training courses and guidance for those who are looking to start or advance the use of endoscopes in their practice will be vital in the years to come.

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